

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
COUNCIL

SUMMATION OF MINUTES
TUESDAY JULY 10, 2007

I. Introduction and Comments

Members present:

Carl Zager

Suzann Owen

Jesse Strycker

Eric Ost came in after roll call

Others present:

Michael White, CATS

Justin Goodwin

Rick Dietz

Public:

II. Approval of Minutes

Strycker motioned to approve the June 5, 2007 minutes. Owen moved to approve with corrections to record.

All in favor. 3-0-2.

Old Business

A). Rewriting of the Telecommunications Ordinance

IV. Public Comment

No one from the public was present.

Reports and Announcements

A). BTC Members

Owen stated that the state franchise ball is still rolling through out the United States and twenty-two states have been added. The Illinois governor recently signed the new legislation.

Owen stated that she thinks that the TCC's efforts has hopefully kick started getting ATT to begin their compliance, since they have still not began complying. Owen's stated that she believes that ATT's compliance will be monitored very closely.

Owen stated that when they were discussing the emergency alert system at the 6/5/07 meeting and how much the FCC had done to update their stance on video services being provided by telephone companies and the emergency alert system being included by these new video service providers that after checking their web site they had no links or information about this. Owen stated Senator Lugar's office was contacted by her but the call was forwarded onto to ATT. Owen stated that she in turn phoned a person in Senator Lugar's office again and they told Owen that in the Lugar staff database that they do have a response from the FCC and this has been forwarded to Owen, via US Mail.

Zager stated that the former franchise gave Monroe County provisions for local emergency overrides and the local government worked together to let the community know that there was an emergency, the FCC does not have this as a necessity at the local level and the new franchise law does not include this in the new video certificate law. Strycker asked Zager if the radios worked for local emergencies or only on a higher level of emergency at the state level and where the public can be told to go on a radio for the alerts. Zager stated that NOA alerts the public via the radio, but this is only a local weather alert; not chemical spills, etc. Zager stated his point was that with the new franchise hinders the community from being notified about the warning on the local level quickly. Zager stated that Insight is still being cooperative under the old franchise, but if they leave and are replaced by another entity he is not sure what will happen with the local emergency alert system. Zager stated that it is completely voluntary that the video providers do the local alerts, statewide it is mandatory.

Ost moved that the TCC get on the City Council meeting agenda to present their report and findings for their rewriting of the telecommunications ordinance. Strycker seconded the motion. All in favor. 4-0-0.

Zager moved that the TCC apply for a \$100.00 membership to the Alliance for Community Media. Ost seconded the motion. All in favor. 4-0-0.

Ost moved to schedule a work session to work on the completion of the video provider guide. Ost wanted to open this up to the public so anyone that wants to attend and add their input could do so. Strycker asked where Ost would see this work session being held. Ost stated it did not matter where the work session was held. Owen seconded the motion. All in favor. 4-0-0. Strycker stated that he would like to see the meeting held at a more public venue like the public library. Zager stated that there would possibly be a fee to rent space at the library. Owen stated that this needs to be really promoted in order for the public to show up at the meeting. Zager agreed that it needed to be publicized on the PEG Channels. Zager stated that August 14,

2007 would be a good meeting date. Owen stated that an alternative idea would be a good idea for people that can not make the meeting. Strycker stated that a good idea would be the traditional format and online communication to input their ideas.

B.) Insight Communications

The report is in the official record.

No one from Insight was present, per their Governmental relations Wendy Henry is no longer obligated to come to the TCC meetings since the franchise is now a state franchise. Owen stated that she would still like to contact someone and let them know that they would still like to have a relationship with Insight.

C.) CATS

The report is in the official record.

Michael White presented the June report to the council.

Owen asked White if there was some way that the CATS report could be broken down according to the channels. Owen stated that it would be good to know what is specifically happening on each channel to see if each channel is fulfilling its intended purpose. Ost stated that if this is the case then he wants WTIU to give a specific report on each channel and show this in their monthly report. White stated that he would see if this can be done and check into the feasibility.

White stated that there has been a little bit of email traffic with ATT. White stated that he had the forms filled out for ATT to carry the PEG Channels and they have forwarded these onto ATT. White stated that there was going to be a meeting with WTIU and see what they are doing about carriage of their channels on ATT. White wanted the council to know that they CATS is being diligent in getting the forms filled out and working with WTIU.

D.) WTIU

The report is in the official record.

Phil Meyer only attends every quarter per the new franchise agreement. Strycker stated that WTIU does have a call into ATT as well; regarding their video services and WTIU.

E.) Bloomington Digital Underground

Strycker asked Dietz if there was a way that the community could have a way to drop comments and suggestions to the BDU, maybe even kiosks located at possibly the library. Strycker stated he thought that this might make the public feel like they have a say in the BDU if they can express their opinions and suggestions. Dietz stated that there are ways for the public to input their ideas through the ombudsman and through the City web site.

Owen stated that updating of the website regarding the TCC needs to be taken care for the minutes, agendas, etc. Dietz stated that getting with Justin Goodwin and

asking him to update or change these things would get them done. Dietz stated that public interest in the web page is welcomed and so is their input for the web page.

Zager asked Dietz how Thomson's Multi-Channel Video Compliance Guide Renewal benefits the TCC year after year, especially with how expensive it is. Dietz stated that he did not know how it benefited them but that it has been around for a very long time. Ost stated that he meant to look over that and see how this benefited them, but had not done so yet and intended to before 2008 renewal. Dietz stated that he does look over the information when it comes in from the company but that the TCC needs to also look over the subscription.

Zager asked if the TCC could get a copy of the budget for the TCC from Dietz when it goes through. Dietz stated that he would get them a copy when he gets one. Ost asked Dietz if the budget has changed at all, Dietz stated that it has remained the same for quite some time.

F.) ATT

No one was present from ATT.

Strycker stated that he still wanted to extend an invitation to ATT to come to the meetings.

III. Old Business

A.) The role of the BTC.

IV. New Business

V. Adjournment

The next official meeting of the Telecommunications Council is tentatively set for Tuesday August 7, 2007 at 7:30 in the Council Chambers.